

Attorney Docket No.: DEX-0115
Inventors: Salceda et al.
Serial No.: 09/717,883
Filing Date: November 21, 2000
Page 3

Am 1
patient versus normal human control is associated with the presence of cancer.

4. (amended) A method of diagnosing metastases of cancer in a patient comprising:

(a) identifying a patient having cancer that is not known to have metastasized;

(b) determining Ovr107 levels in a sample of cells, tissues, or bodily fluid from said patient, (wherein Ovr107 comprises SEQ ID NO:1 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO:1; and

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(c) comparing the determined Ovr107 levels with levels of Ovr107 in cells, tissue, or bodily fluid of a normal human control, wherein an increase in determined Ovr107 levels in the patient versus the normal human control is associated with a cancer which has metastasized.

5. (amended) A method of staging cancer in a patient having cancer comprising:

(a) identifying a patient having cancer;

(b) determining Ovr107 levels in a sample of cells, tissue, or bodily fluid from said patient, wherein Ovr107 comprises SEQ ID NO:1 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO:1; and

Attorney Docket No.: DEX-0115
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Serial No.: 09/717,883
Filing Date: November 21, 2000
Page 4

(c) comparing determined Ovr107 levels with levels of Ovr107 in cells, tissues, or bodily fluid of a normal human control, wherein an increase in determined Ovr107 levels in said patient versus the normal human control is associated with a cancer which is progressing and a decrease in the determined Ovr107 levels is associated with a cancer which is regressing or in remission.

6. (amended) A method of monitoring cancer in a patient for the onset of metastasis comprising:

(a) identifying a patient having cancer that is not known to have metastasized;

Amended
(b) periodically determining levels of Ovr107 in samples of cells, tissues, or bodily fluid from said patient, wherein Ovr107 comprises SEQ ID NO:1 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO:1; and

(c) comparing the periodically determined Ovr107 levels with levels of Ovr107 in cells, tissues, or bodily fluid of a normal human control, wherein an increase in any one of the periodically determined Ovr107 levels in the patient versus the normal human control is associated with a cancer which has metastasized.

7. (amended) A method of monitoring a change in stage of cancer in a patient comprising:

(a) identifying a patient having cancer;

Attorney Docket No.: DEX-0115
Inventors: Salceda et al.
Serial No.: 09/717,883
Filing Date: November 21, 2000
Page 5

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(b) periodically determining levels of Ovr107 in cells, tissues, or bodily fluid from said patient, wherein Ovr107 comprises SEQ ID NO:1 or a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the antisense sequence of SEQ ID NO:1; and

(c) comparing the periodically determined Ovr107 levels with levels of Ovr107 in cells, tissues, or bodily fluid of a normal human control, wherein an increase in any one of the periodically determined Ovr107 levels in the patient versus the normal human control is associated with a cancer which is progressing in stage and a decrease is associated with a cancer which is regressing in stage or in remission.

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in the instant patent application. Claims 1, 2, and 8-16 have been withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner and subsequently canceled without prejudice by Applicants by this amendment. Claims 3-7 have been rejected. Claims 3-7 have been amended. No new matter has been added by this amendment. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of these amendments and the following remarks.